

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A package (~~10~~) for packaging coffee or tea particulate (~~12~~) is provided, the package ~~including~~ comprising:

(a) a pouch (~~14~~) filled with the particulate; and

(b) a ~~two-piece~~, pressurizable container (~~16~~) ~~comprising~~ having a closed-ended cylindrical body sealingly closeable by a cap via a method of rolling edges of the parts together, wherein the pouch is packaged inside the container, ~~optionally~~ in a CO₂ gas environment under ~~pressures~~ pressure exceeding ambient pressure, and hermetically sealed therein.

2. (canceled)

3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) The package (~~10~~) of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1, wherein the two-piece container (~~16~~) is a can comprised of a first, cup-shaped portion (~~20~~) having an opening (~~21~~), and a second covering piece (~~22~~) having a shape corresponding to the opening for covering the opening, wherein the pouch (~~14~~) is packaged inside the cup-shaped portion,
5 ~~optionally~~ in a CO₂ environment under ~~pressures~~ pressure exceeding ambient pressure, and hermetically sealed therein by sealingly engaging the second covering piece with the opening of the cup-shaped portion.

5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) The package (10) of ~~one of claims 4 or 5~~ claim 4, wherein the second covering piece (22) is disk-shaped and includes an opening tab (42) to facilitate opening of the container (16), thus permitting access to the pouch (14).
7. (currently amended) The package (10) of claim 1, wherein the particulate (12) is sealed in the pouch (14).
8. (currently amended) The package (10) of claim 1, wherein the pouch (14) is made of filter material.
9. (currently amended) The package (10) of claim 8, wherein the filter material is selected from a group of materials consisting of porous paper, porous cellulos, and porous woven material constructed so as to be sufficiently strong to withstand the stresses induced upon opening the package.
10. (currently amended) The package (10) of claim 1, wherein such package is formed so as to be efficiently packagable together with other such packages, in a system (56) including a sleeve (60), wherein at least two packages may be inserted inside the sleeve.
11. (currently amended) The package (10) of claim 10, wherein the package is stored within the sleeve (60) in a longitudinal orientation.
12. (currently amended) The package (10) of claim 10, wherein the sleeve (60) is transparent and semi-rigid.

13. (currently amended) The package (10) of claim 10, wherein the sleeve (60) comprises an inner and outer portion (70, 72), the portions telescoping so as to adjust the height and thus the package storage capacity of the sleeve.

14. (currently amended) The package (10) of claim 13, wherein at least one of the portions (70, 72) is transparent and cup shaped, having a closed end (76) and an open end (80), and measuring marks (82) interspersed along its length, so as to serve as a measuring beaker for liquid, such as water.

15. (currently amended) The package (10) of claim 10, wherein the sleeve (60) is made of a printable material.

16. (currently amended) A method (100) of packaging tea or coffee particulate (12), the method comprising the steps of:

(a) filling a filter pouch (14) with particulate;

(b) closing the pouch;

5 (c) inserting the filled filter pouch (14) through an opening (21) into a first, cup-shaped portion (20) of a two-piece, pressurizable container (16); and

(d) hermetically sealing the pouch inside the cup-shaped portion by sealing a second, covering portion over the opening (22) wherein the sealing seals CO₂ gas at a pressure above ambient pressure into the container.

17. (canceled)

18. (currently amended) The method (100) of ~~claim 17~~ claim 16, wherein, prior to sealing, ~~pellets (28) of dry ice are~~ is placed inside the container.